DNREC to Temporarily Close Delaware State Parks Nature Centers Starting Dec. 14

The Baldcypress Nature Center at Trap Pond State Park

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control announced today that it will close all nature centers within Delaware State Parks starting Monday, Dec. 14 through Jan. 11, 2021, to limit the spread of COVID-19.

No in-person programming will be held at Delaware State Parks while the nature centers are closed in order to eliminate gatherings of people from different households. Delaware State Parks will instead offer independent, online programming, such self-guided hikes, online activities and videos while nature centers are closed. The virtual programs will be posted on Delaware State Parks' Facebook, Instagram and YouTube accounts, and at the Delaware State Parks Adventure Blog and www.destateparks.com/virtualparks.

The closures coincide with Gov. John Carney's latest stay-at-home advisory, which was issued to "interrupt the dangerous winter surge of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in Delaware." The advisory strongly urges Delawareans to avoid gathering indoors with anyone from outside their households during the advisory timeframe.

For more information about Delaware State Parks, visit www.destateparks.com.

About DNREC

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control protects and manages the state's natural resources, protects public health, provides outdoor recreational opportunities and educates Delawareans about the environment. The <u>Division of Parks and Recreation</u> oversees more than

26,000 acres in 17 state parks and the Brandywine Zoo. For more information, visit the <u>website</u> and connect with DNREC on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> or <u>LinkedIn</u>.

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